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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/077,628	02/19/2002	Richard W. Morris	N2000-017	2866

7590 07/29/2004
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EXAMINER

LUEBKE, RENEE S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2833	

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/077,628

Applicant(s)

MORRIS

Examiner

Renee S. Luebke

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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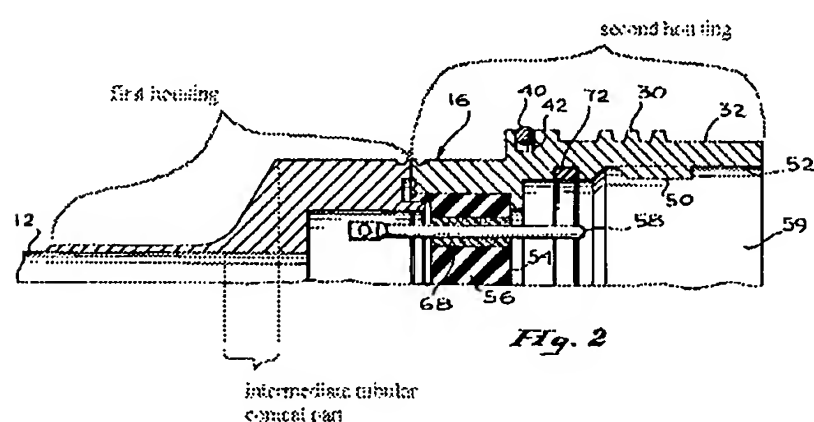
1. Claims 5 and 6 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- on line 1 of claim 5, "where in" should be -wherein-.
- on lines 5 and 7 of claim 6 it appears that "is" should be deleted.

Appropriate corrections are required.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 1-7, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iversen, et al. in view of Dale, et al. Iversen discloses an electrical connector (Fig. 2) that connects a cable having a metal sheath (see col. 2, lines 42-43) comprising a first elongated, tubular, metal housing (see fig. 2 as labeled below) having an integral longitudinal portion extending from a first end (at left) to a second end, the second end having a larger diameter



defining a second peripheral surface, with an intermediate tubular conical part extending between the first peripheral surface and the second peripheral surface, with the diameter at the first end sized to closely receive and prepared to be metallurgically joined to the

sheath of the cable; and a second elongated, tubular, metal housing section 32 having a first end which is sized to mate with the second end of the first housing section, the second end of the first housing section and the first end of the second housing section having abutting surfaces that are mechanically joined. The connector further comprising a pin 58 supported by the second housing. It is acknowledged that the second end of the first housing is not longer than the first end. However, Dale teaches that the tubular portion that

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is brazed to the metal sheath need not be as long as that shown by Iversen. As applicant has indicated no particular reason for the proportions claimed, and as others are known, it would have been obvious to reduce the first end of Iversen to reduce the material and/or to increase the second end of Iversen to allow a larger housing space.

In regard to claims 3, 4, 7 and 12, it is noted that Dale uses a brazed mating lap joint (at 81) between sections of the connector, a sheath with epoxy and a crimp bucket. These joint details are known for their ability to offer secure, long lasting connections on connectors of this type. Therefore, it would have been obvious to use such features on the connector of Iversen.

4. Claims 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iversen and Dale as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Reinhart et al. Iversen lacks an electrical insulator spacer positioned and structured as claimed. However, Reinhart teaches an insulator spacer 18 with a passage 66 and formed as a ceramic plate (col. 2, line 64). It would have been obvious to include an insulator spacer such as that of Reinhart in the connector of Iversen to effectively guide the conductors while preventing electrical contact between them.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In

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no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. It is suggested that responses to this final action be faxed to:
(703) 872-9306

Please refrain from sending a confirmation copy, as noted in 37 CFR 1.6(d) and 1.8(b).

Alternatively, responses may be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mrs. Renee Luebke at (571) 272-2009. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mrs. Paula Bradley, can be reached at (571) 272-2800, extension 33.



Renee S. Luebke
Primary Patent Examiner
July 26, 2004